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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

Monthly Completion Report

STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Special Projects Section
(202) 682-8492/682-8518

Report Month: SEPTEMBER 1987

REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES[1]

Wells actually completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

Cumulative Number of Wells Reported as Completed
For Each of the Past 12 Months

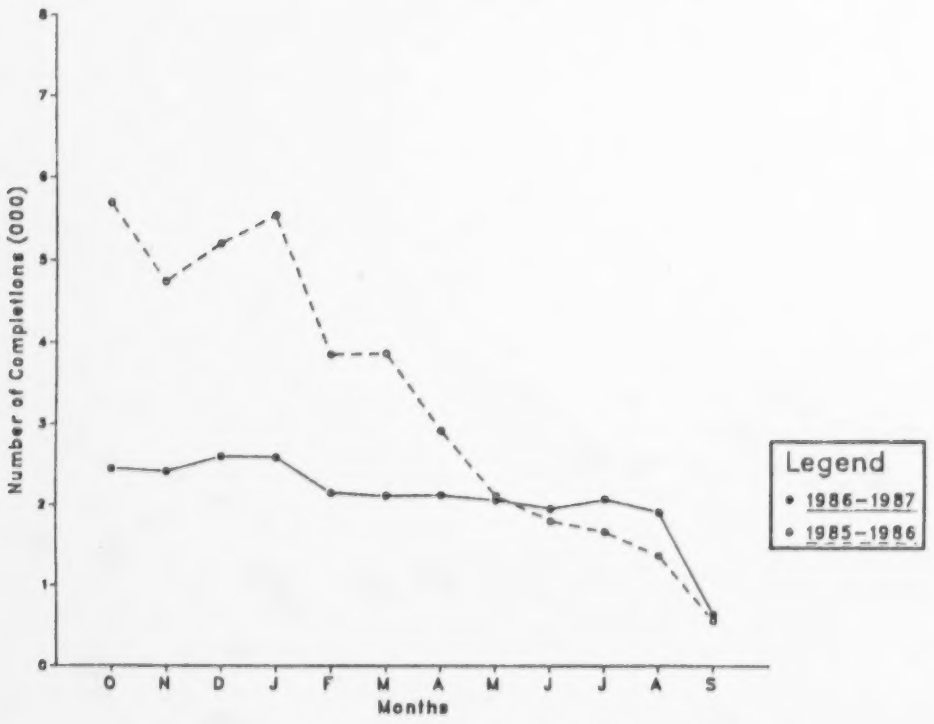

TABLE I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1987[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES		TOTAL ALL WELLS[4]	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1987	8,157	34,905,654	3,210	19,100,431	6,148	31,282,670	17,515	85,288,755	17,786	86,261,780
1987: SEP	245	992,750	34	207,997	354	1,820,197	633	3,020,944	640	3,039,221
AUG	919	3,675,707	262	1,478,621	720	3,730,900	1,901	8,885,228	1,925	8,968,007
JUL	979	3,924,538	323	2,211,820	760	3,720,746	2,062	9,857,104	2,098	9,982,889
JUN	931	4,046,294	297	1,932,326	716	3,684,371	1,944	9,662,991	1,976	9,769,328
MAY	1,010	4,427,982	355	2,213,475	683	3,604,018	2,048	10,245,475	2,097	10,469,106
APR	960	4,320,560	399	2,422,871	751	3,589,568	2,110	10,332,999	2,127	10,403,874
MAR	939	4,249,079	471	2,644,419	692	3,526,199	2,102	10,419,697	2,132	10,527,031
FEB	1,000	4,322,136	485	2,776,768	651	3,196,959	2,136	10,295,863	2,172	10,421,884
JAN	1,174	4,946,608	584	3,212,134	821	4,409,712	2,579	12,568,454	2,619	12,680,440
TOTAL 1986	17,553	71,892,813	7,258	39,714,961	11,708	58,070,355	36,519	169,678,129	37,142	171,806,071
1986: DEC	1,082	4,516,740	584	3,207,825	924	4,719,359	2,590	12,443,924	2,650	12,629,540
NOV	1,069	4,040,499	514	2,824,581	827	4,099,539	2,410	10,964,619	2,444	11,086,112
OCT	1,063	4,065,203	585	3,093,188	798	3,900,551	2,446	11,058,942	2,494	11,218,335
SEP	965	3,768,626	524	2,685,651	737	3,709,625	2,226	10,163,902	2,251	10,248,793
AUG	920	3,850,330	528	2,642,477	849	3,825,180	2,297	10,317,987	2,337	10,442,622
JUL	946	4,138,446	539	2,651,716	816	3,917,715	2,301	10,707,877	2,350	10,864,836
JUN	944	3,985,317	489	2,636,991	763	3,581,133	2,196	10,203,441	2,229	10,319,848
MAY	1,116	4,963,284	474	2,677,304	861	4,330,910	2,451	11,971,498	2,523	12,254,587
APR	1,655	7,346,770	630	3,793,236	1,000	4,835,597	3,285	15,975,603	3,344	16,189,926
MAR	2,258	9,504,637	701	4,158,107	1,262	6,237,477	4,221	19,900,221	4,274	20,061,345
FEB	2,294	9,733,381	689	4,048,043	1,156	6,271,810	4,139	20,053,234	4,202	20,294,739
JAN	3,241	11,979,580	1,001	5,295,842	1,715	8,641,459	5,957	25,916,881	6,044	26,195,388
TOTAL 1985	35,628	140,258,328	12,552	69,342,504	20,863	101,966,252	69,043	311,567,084	70,717	316,758,729
1985: DEC	2,784	11,206,026	914	5,154,267	1,795	9,074,678	5,493	25,434,971	5,601	25,779,812
NOV	2,553	10,093,816	883	5,047,143	1,524	7,496,922	4,960	22,637,881	5,041	22,934,810
OCT	2,983	11,664,093	1,190	6,081,247	1,753	8,362,800	5,926	26,108,140	6,024	26,435,574
SEP	2,815	10,617,688	1,070	5,566,347	1,702	8,205,308	5,587	24,389,343	5,685	24,649,933
AUG	3,288	12,398,532	1,109	5,959,260	1,904	8,870,800	6,301	27,228,592	6,402	27,523,971
JUL	3,080	11,278,733	1,084	5,912,178	1,822	8,399,174	5,986	25,590,085	6,148	26,055,601
JUN	2,947	11,233,479	1,014	5,438,467	1,661	7,688,650	5,622	24,360,596	5,768	24,822,147
MAY	2,863	11,692,762	909	5,082,979	1,662	8,202,587	5,434	24,978,328	5,631	25,577,903
APR	2,961	11,920,873	996	5,820,918	1,734	8,524,401	5,691	26,266,192	5,845	26,697,438
MAR	3,243	13,190,059	1,096	6,285,726	1,824	8,924,246	6,163	28,400,031	6,373	28,956,502
FEB	2,819	11,700,561	1,086	6,199,403	1,512	7,891,807	5,417	25,791,771	5,555	26,245,575
JAN	3,292	13,261,706	1,201	6,794,569	1,970	10,324,879	6,463	30,381,154	6,644	31,079,463
TOTAL 1984	43,759	166,478,153	14,727	80,835,146	25,089	118,313,287	83,575	365,626,586	85,797	371,421,019
TOTAL 1983	38,240	140,802,254	12,711	69,836,240	23,749	103,540,855	74,700	314,179,349	76,731	318,949,001

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1987[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1987	481	2,944,822	371	2,541,528	2,966	15,917,365	3,818	21,403,715
1987: SEP	14	87,443	4	32,734	186	1,023,674	204	1,143,851
AUG	36	221,859	28	178,492	350	1,894,478	414	2,294,829
JUL	54	261,360	33	246,947	351	1,825,384	438	2,333,691
JUN	58	376,680	36	256,672	330	1,781,478	424	2,414,830
MAY	63	368,178	49	365,950	330	1,780,199	442	2,514,327
APR	59	387,003	51	281,023	336	1,694,189	446	2,362,215
MAR	57	408,419	50	323,827	350	1,843,151	457	2,575,397
FEB	52	338,754	51	359,836	310	1,557,913	413	2,256,503
JAN	88	495,126	69	496,047	423	2,516,899	580	3,508,072
TOTAL 1986	962	5,826,615	719	4,900,601	5,211	29,162,418	6,892	39,889,634
1986: DEC	73	474,691	47	329,222	469	2,609,903	589	3,413,816
NOV	56	312,504	55	369,415	409	2,120,956	520	2,802,875
OCT	48	295,317	43	312,916	361	1,957,188	452	2,565,421
SEP	42	189,022	63	356,005	315	1,740,343	420	2,285,370
AUG	48	253,581	58	350,905	369	1,918,135	475	2,522,621
JUL	72	399,381	58	336,811	353	1,831,202	483	2,567,394
JUN	54	307,022	46	289,667	311	1,711,117	411	2,307,806
MAY	73	421,938	41	342,264	412	2,325,547	526	3,089,769
APR	92	648,701	64	517,790	442	2,454,204	598	3,620,695
MAR	112	753,438	65	529,566	541	3,123,069	718	4,406,073
FEB	113	729,854	73	529,741	493	3,125,024	679	4,384,619
JAN	179	1,041,166	106	636,279	736	4,245,730	1,021	5,923,175
TOTAL 1985	1,709	10,032,266	1,267	8,578,793	9,006	49,044,328	11,982	67,655,387
1985: DEC	146	862,999	87	601,883	845	4,724,715	1,078	6,189,597
NOV	106	619,559	89	676,036	680	3,709,108	875	5,004,703
OCT	142	797,510	85	507,858	775	4,039,979	1,002	5,345,347
SEP	114	623,773	78	536,339	738	3,944,663	930	5,104,775
AUG	165	985,120	100	665,218	804	4,152,084	1,069	5,802,422
JUL	130	754,334	94	593,460	761	3,891,562	985	5,239,356
JUN	125	665,297	118	843,469	700	3,457,717	943	4,966,483
MAY	152	898,719	123	782,022	685	3,808,831	960	5,489,572
APR	126	704,342	116	805,196	718	4,026,175	960	5,535,713
MAR	174	1,066,506	111	720,714	742	4,133,888	1,027	5,921,108
FEB	161	1,016,343	120	842,658	688	4,081,014	969	5,940,015
JAN	168	1,037,764	146	1,003,940	870	5,074,592	1,184	7,116,296
TOTAL 1984	2,309	12,531,798	1,574	9,927,813	11,115	58,428,855	14,998	80,888,466
TOTAL 1983	2,144	10,672,729	1,623	10,130,975	10,122	48,487,958	13,889	69,291,662

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS[1] BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR REPORTED TO THE API DURING SEPTEMBER 1987

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES		TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[4] CURRENT MONTH	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1987	1,139	4,701,162	488	2,615,850	823	3,980,856	2,450	11,297,868	2,495	11,453,538
1987: SEP	245	992,750	34	207,997	354	1,820,197	633	3,020,944	640	3,039,221
AUG	574	2,413,208	174	1,014,291	302	1,498,979	1,050	4,926,478	1,063	4,978,749
JUL	131	589,382	84	520,381	67	331,935	282	1,441,698	299	1,495,035
JUN	63	273,408	32	165,762	23	101,500	118	540,670	119	544,165
MAY	28	108,076	35	190,885	15	48,546	78	347,507	82	364,443
APR	36	145,146	30	93,851	23	53,315	89	292,312	89	292,312
MAR	24	82,617	38	164,354	22	51,998	84	298,969	86	306,923
FEB	16	33,031	24	106,817	12	53,286	52	193,134	52	193,134
JAN	22	63,544	37	151,512	5	21,100	64	236,156	65	239,556
TOTAL 1986	88	286,846	100	396,235	51	159,457	239	842,538	243	851,533
1986: DEC	19	81,453	38	171,461	11	40,265	68	293,179	69	298,529
NOV	7	30,776	23	88,415	7	24,685	37	143,876	38	145,108
OCT	7	18,527	8	29,745	3	20,030	18	68,302	19	69,468
SEP	7	13,054	9	37,870	4	17,464	20	68,388	20	68,388
AUG	6	26,029	6	10,135	5	9,114	17	45,278	17	45,278
JUL	0	0	3	6,661	4	2,439	7	9,100	7	9,100
JUN	0	0	1	2,741	3	3,133	4	5,874	4	5,874
MAY	13	19,696	2	2,990	3	7,614	18	30,300	18	30,300
APR	3	12,716	3	6,577	2	5,590	8	24,883	8	24,883
MAR	3	15,550	2	8,569	3	16,830	8	40,949	9	42,196
FEB	8	23,701	0	0	3	7,746	11	31,447	11	31,447
JAN	15	45,344	5	31,071	3	4,547	23	80,962	23	80,962
TOTAL 1985	52	109,043	26	118,616	34	84,050	112	311,709	124	326,015
1985: DEC	6	20,655	10	52,593	5	6,714	21	79,962	28	87,409
NOV	8	9,978	6	31,996	0	0	14	41,974	14	41,974
OCT	7	13,099	0	0	2	10,639	9	23,738	9	23,738
SEP	4	6,754	0	0	5	13,346	9	20,100	9	20,100
AUG	6	12,507	1	604	1	860	8	13,971	9	15,756
JUL	7	7,953	1	5,625	3	8,033	11	21,611	11	21,611
JUN	3	4,732	0	0	2	2,815	5	7,547	5	7,547
MAY	3	10,949	1	6,240	3	8,955	7	26,144	8	27,684
APR	3	10,496	1	6,287	1	823	5	17,606	5	17,606
MAR	2	4,792	3	8,674	3	14,270	8	27,736	10	30,048
FEB	3	7,128	0	0	1	2,723	4	9,851	5	11,073
JAN	0	0	3	6,597	8	14,872	11	21,469	11	21,469
TOTAL 1984	24	55,696	26	108,723	16	43,945	66	208,364	69	214,751
YRS PRIOR TO 1984	25	59,806	7	28,925	40	101,614	72	190,345	72	190,345
TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[5]	1,328	5,212,553	647	3,268,349	964	4,369,922	2,939	12,850,824	3,003	13,036,182

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of September 25, 1987. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.

2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.

3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLE III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.

2. See footnote (2) above.

3. See footnote (3) above.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.

5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period August 29, 1987 through September 25, 1987. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.